



EMERALD VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

EDITION #38 - JULY 2023

EMERALD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION INC. AND COMMUNITY GROUP NEWS

Top Story - The Hills Hub - our \$8 million community facility.
Is it being utilized sufficiently? Local group agitating for change. Read more inside.



The Hills Hub - Emerald's Community Centre.

EMERALD NEWS
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Suggestion: - share this newsletter with your family, friends
and neighbors. They will appreciate it.

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)



MONTHLY NEWS JULY 2023

Issue #38 | Reg. No. A01047531

emeraldvillagenews.com.au



Hills Hub, 400A Belgrave-Gembrook Road Emerald Vic. 3782

We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which the Emerald Village Association Inc. operates in Emerald, Eastern Dandenong Ranges. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

From the President

Living in Emerald during the last month or two has been a challenge. We do complain about rain and low temperatures but it has been happening annually for many years.

Recently, Mal Bowmaker passed away. Mal was the past President and Program Manager of the Emerald U3A (350 members) and was highly involved in the planning and development of the Hills Hub. He made a significant impact in our Emerald Community.

A major problem for the EVA is the printing of our monthly community newsletter which we produce digitally but print 400-500 copies for distribution in the supermarkets, the library, the newsagents and some cafes. Peter Maloney has arranged some sponsorship from the Emerald Co-Op and the Bendigo Bank to help fund a new printer which will be housed in the Hills Hub. We would encourage you to support these two organisations as often as you can and many thanks to other sponsors who cover the costs of paper and usage of the printer.

The EVA is seeking people who could join our management committee or planning subcommittee.

This is a great opportunity to find out what is happening in our town and district and to have some input into decisions that affect us. Being involved is not a big commitment as we usually only meet once a month. If you are interested please email me. See below.

Where Are We in Emerald ?

Last month the mining relic was located in the Bob James Emerald Quarry Reserve. No one identified this.

Our EVA Logo features the Emerald Star Bush.. Name one location in Emerald where it has been planted to help preserve it. There are a number of sites around Emerald. You only need to send me one selfie photo in front of a Star Bush you find. Lunch at the Laughing Fox is yours to earn.

Email to: dickbartley08@gmail.com

Dick Bartley - President EVA Inc.

The Hills Hub - The Future??

The use of the Hills Hub seems to have varied from the original plan when we had a Placemaker in charge of the building to encourage locals to maximise its day to day usage.

Members of the Hills Photographic Society are campaigning for the opening up of our marvellous facility.

Here is their submission to the Council. I'm sure they would appreciate your feedback..

HILLS HUB – A COMMUNITY HUB OR JUST A FANCY BUILDING WITH ROOMS TO HIRE?

The Hills Hub, love or hate the design, built at a cost of approximately \$8.2m, is supposedly a community facility to serve the needs of Emerald and district residents. It followed lengthy community consultation, hours of work by local groups, including U3A, Lions, the Emerald Village Committee and Cardinia Council. The result – a building with meeting rooms, lounges for the general public, a commercial kitchen, an art/music space and a space large enough to equate with what had been the Emerald Hall.



Paul Bianco (left) and members of the Hills Photographic Society

Initially a Placemaker was appointed to “facilitate initiatives and opportunities that promote

the inclusion of, build the capacity of people and community groups to achieve a healthy, strong and connected community” (Council description of the role)

According to a Council publication :

The Hub is a beautiful, accessible and integrated facility that will support various volunteer, community and local business initiatives, bring several community groups and programs under one roof, and provide a great location for community, arts and social events.

Now?

- *No Placemaker, and no designated reception personnel,*
- *Opening hours reduced to just 3 per day, so that it's NOT accessible to the public after 1pm,*
- *Limited opportunity to visit an exhibition,*
- *Commercial kitchen virtually unused,*
- *It's NOT connecting the community,*
- *It's just a building with rooms for hire.*

A petition to Council, signed by hundreds of locals, pressing for funding to extend opening hours, has been disregarded with no funding provided in the current budget.

It's just not good enough. If you agree that the Hills Hub is grossly under-utilised, speak up.

Email your councillor, Jeff Springfield, encourage your group to act.

Inaction results in no change.

Paul Bianco - santopb47@gmail.com

Member of Hills Photographic Society and of Emerald U3A

Rotary Club of Emerald & District

On Saturday 10th June Emerald Rotary held our 33rd annual Debutante Ball at Cathies Lane Receptions, Wantirna. 26 couples and 233 guests attended this gala and fun event. Tradition dictates that a dress code of white floor length ball gowns and long white gloves worn by the Debutantes and their partners should be dressed in a white shirt and a black tailed suit.

The participants were presented to dignitaries Cardinia Shire Mayor Tammy Radford, Rotary President Marcus Adams and Tanya Clayworth and Matthew Powell, teachers from Emerald Secondary College.

The “Partners” commenced the evening’s dances with a fun routine. This set the tone for the evening with all the families and friends cheering, clapping, and laughing. Following this, the traditional ballroom dance sequences were performed to modern music.

As the last formal dance finished, all guests hit the dance floor enjoying all the favourite disco tunes.



The debutantes and the Mayor of Cardinia, Tammy Radford

Planning and coordination of the event spans many months which was coordinated by Rotarian Lyn Beckwith and her team of Shalini Penny and new Rotarian Toni-Anne Griffin.

No event would be complete without a Rotary Raffle, and the guests dug deep to the tune of \$1100+ with prizes donated by Barry Plant Real Estate Emerald, John Travers Photography and Bam Bam Italian, Avonsleigh.

This is a milestone and memorable experience for all involved and especially the teenagers who will enjoy lasting memories. For our Rotary Club, it is an opportunity to continue our connection with the community and raise funds in a fun and positive way. And we are doing it all again in 2024 so Save the Date - 15th June!



Incoming Rotary President - Sangeeta Bajaj

A Changeover of Club Presidents from Marcus Adams to Sangeeta Bajaj for the 2023-2024 year occurred on Saturday 17th June at the Independent, Gembrook. Marcus and his Board achieved so much over his year, including running the annual Primary Schools Speech Competition; the Pride of Workmanship Awards; providing scholarships to 5

Medical students via the Macleod Murphy Trust, running the monthly market in Emerald, sorting coal with Puffing Billy, assisting the Salvation Army with their Red Shield Appeal, cleaning up for Clean-Up Australia Day with Johns Hills Landcare Group and the Emerald Scouts, holding 2 Brushstrokes and Bubbles nights with the Emerald Art Society, running RYDA (Rotary Youth Driving Awareness) course for Emerald Secondary College students, assisting the local churches with Christmas Hampers and many more Youth, Community and International projects.

Moving into the 2023–2024-year, Incoming President Sangeeta and our members are hitting the ground running with a marathon BBQ in conjunction with Puffing Billy's Train of Lights from 22 June to 8 July at the Gembrook Railway station. John Henderson Chair of the Kids Fun Run with Puffing Billy for the last few years and his team coordinated this event. At the time of writing, it has been a great crowd pleaser and proved how good it is to work within the community.

Another "Save the day" is Sunday 26th November for the next Kids Fun Run with Puffing Billy to be held at Gembrook Railway station. If there is a company who would like to support the next event, please contact the Club. The Monash Children's Hospital will again be the recipients of the funds raised.

We would love you to join us at either an event or meeting (held every Tuesday 6.45pm for 7pm at The Paradise Hotel). To find out more please call 0408 769 491 or 0417 038 707.

Shalini Penny, Publicity

EVA Monthly Meeting

At our last meeting we heard from two committed community members in Jeff Latter and Peter Cook. We're fortunate to have such caring and proactive people in our midst going the extra mile to protect our environment from harm. Both have spent literally decades fighting for the best outcomes for current and particularly future generations of this district.

They can't do it all alone however, and if Lawson's Reserve is to remain unspoiled, it will be necessary for a few members of the community to form a Committee of Management for Conservation – a condition for it being made Crown Land. If you want to lead by example in the eyes of your children, then this would be a good way to do that. Let us know if you would like to be on that committee by emailing evasecretary3782@gmail.com.

Peter Cook alerted us to the opportunity for local organisations to establish an ongoing revenue source by getting in early on Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) that will be in place within 4 months. <https://www.vic.gov.au/container-deposit-scheme>

Our Planning sub-committee has many projects in progress which you can be kept abreast of by being a

member. You will then receive a copy of our Minutes and other information plus the Newsletter by email each month. The more members we have, the greater our voice is when taking matters to Council. There is no fee or obligation to attend meetings. See attached link.

<https://www.emeraldvillagenews.com.au/about-emerald-village-committee>

Keep warm and well, and love your life...

Heather Bishop - Secretary EVA



Emerald RSL



On Thursday night July 6th at the RSL's Xmas in July dinner, a packed out crowd witnessed the awarding of Life Memberships to two of its stalwart members, Betty A'Vard and Chris Cullen. Both Chris and Betty have served the RSL over many years and were well deserved of their Awards. Congratulations to you both.

Peter Maloney - President

Cardinia Council News

Community organisations, large and small are the backbone of strong, vibrant communities. They contribute to community cohesion and reach out and support those who may not have access to support they need. These groups come in all shapes and sizes and are often looking for volunteer committee members, regardless of whether you have been on a committee before or not. You don't need any particular background; just the skills that make you - well you!

Everyone brings a unique contribution and it's the diversity of a Committee that adds to its success. If you have been looking to join a group or just want to know what committees do and the benefits of being on a committee, this session will help to unpack those questions.

Please find below a link to Cardinia Shire Council's other upcoming training opportunities for community members and groups:

[Cardinia Training Opportunities](#)

If you have any questions or issues with the registration link please email Grant White –

G.White@cardinia.vic.gov.au

or ccwg@cardinia.vic.gov.au for assistance and further information.

EVA Sponsors

The EVA is very much appreciative of the financial support provided by the 27 local businesses over the past 12 months.

With another financial year upon us our numbers of sponsors have grown to 33. The new sponsors to join our prestigious Emerald Club are:

- **Flavour Bomb Asian Fusion restaurant**
- **Emcar automotive services**
- **Cellarbrations**
- **Emerald Wellness Pharmacy**
- **Emerald Pilates**
- **Hush Cosmetics**
- **Tree Range including Emerald Hire**
- **Fernlea Shop of Opportunities**
- **Emerald Family Dentist**
- **Lauritos Pizza restaurant**

WELCOME

The EVA encourages local residents to stay on the hill and - BUY LOCAL.

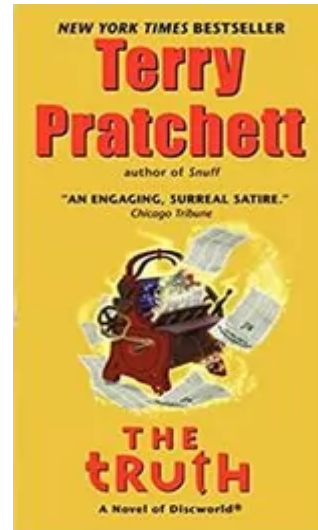
GEMCO



THE GEM
COMMUNITY
ARTS CENTRE

THE TRUTH

By - Terry Pratchett



There's been a murder. Allegedly.

William de Worde is the accidental editor of the Discworld's first newspaper. He must cope with the traditional perils of a journalist's life – people who want him dead, a recovering vampire with a fascination for flash photography, some more people who want him dead in a different way and, worst of all, the man who keeps begging him to publish pictures of his humorously shaped vegetables.

Meanwhile, as William fills his pages with reports, dark forces high up in Ankh-Morpork's society are plotting to overthrow the city's ruler, Lord Vetinari.

A stage adaptation by Stephen Briggs

Friday July 7th till Saturday July 22nd
Directed by Evie Housham.

[For more information - Gemco website](#)

Evie Housham - Gemco

Laugh a Little - or Smile a LOT



Bendigo Bank - 2024 Calendar

Glimpses of the Past: An invitation to all keen shutterbugs to please submit your best photography shots for our 2024 Calendar!

The Community Bank Upwey, Belgrave, and Cockatoo-Gembrook are part of the Bendigo Bank network and are excited to announce their 2024 photography calendar will feature the theme "Glimpses of the Past." The calendar will showcase photographs that provide glimpses into lives past, long-ago events, and forgotten places within the Dandenong Ranges.

"This will be the fifteenth year that we have produced the calendar which is provided free of charge to our customers and shareholders," said Deb Weber, Chair. "The theme of 'Glimpses of the Past' is open to interpretation and aims to celebrate the rich history of the Dandenong Ranges. We can't wait to see the images that are submitted."

Don't miss your chance to showcase your talents and be a part of the 2024 Calendar. The photographs must capture the essence of the theme and be taken within the Dandenong Ranges.

The deadline for submissions is August 25, 2023. For more information on how to submit photographs, please email calendar@drcbg.com.au for an information flyer.

Emerald Museum & Nobelius Heritage Park

New Hills Hub Display: The Emerald Country Club



The new display in the Hub foyer features an historic Emerald icon, the Emerald Country Club.

Older Emerald residents may have fond memories of teeing off on the golf course and/or of attending social functions at the club house.

The Emerald Country Club has an interesting history. It was established in the 1920s on part of the land owned by Carl Axel Nobelius who operated Gembrook Nurseries (aka Nobelius Nurseries) from 1886. When Nobelius died in 1921, the Nurseries covered around 400 hectares. The property was subsequently divided and purchased by two syndicates.

The Emerald Proprietary Limited syndicate acquired about 240 hectares north of Gembrook Road to form the Emerald Country Club Estate. The land was developed into an American style country club with a golf course, tennis courts and swimming pool – and a housing estate.

The club house was completed in 1929 and was the subject of complimentary articles in two editions of Australian Home Beautiful.

When the Club commenced, its membership was limited to those who purchased land in the surrounding estate which was created by the establishment of Elm Crescent, Poplar Crescent, Sycamore Avenue, Oak Avenue, Nobelius Street and Lakeside Drive. However, aspiring members who lived outside of this estate could purchase membership.

The Country Club went through various owners with improvements to facilities and sporting options. In the 1970s, the golf course expanded to 18 holes.

The Emerald Country Club and golf course closed in January 2017. A caretaker family now lives there.

Further information can be found at:

- Jo Jenkinson, Nobelius Heritage Park: An Illustrated Guide (2002)*
- Gus Ryberg, What When Where Who (1984) *
- Casey Cardinia Links to our Past [Casey Cardinia - links to our past: Search results for Emerald Country Club \(caseycardinialinkstoorpast.blogspot.com\)](#)
- Victorian Heritage database report <https://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/70200/download-report>
- A search of Trove: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>

The asterisked books can be purchased at the Emerald Museum. The Museum is open on Wednesdays 10.00 am – 3.00 pm and Sundays 12.00 pm – 3.00pm

“Bank with the Bendigo”

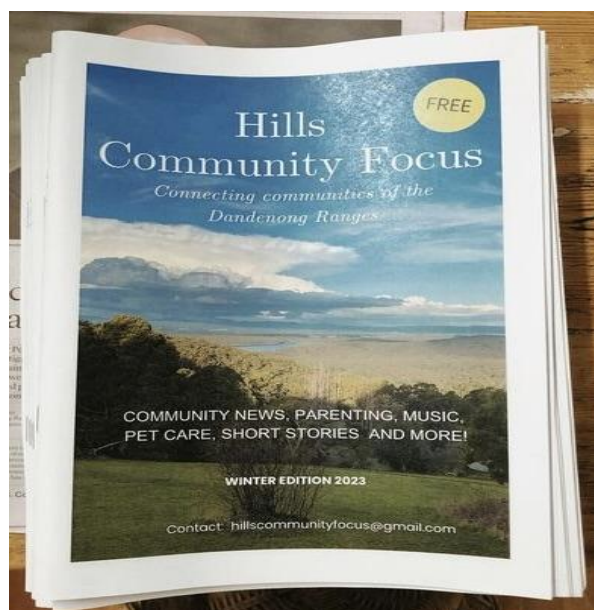
The EVA is liaising with the Bendigo Bank to assist with the purchase of a modern photocopier to produce a modern booklet style newsletter. This copier may also be able to be used by other community groups and regional townships.

To assist the EVA to move forward with this project we would encourage members of EVA and residents to consider sharing their banking with the Bendigo Bank.

For more information you can email: mick.spruhan2@bendigoadelaide.com.au Anytime.

New Magazine in the Hills

From the Hills Creative Alliance.



Can be found at your local Newsagent.

Emerald Arts Society

Puffing Billy Railways - Fun Run

The Puffing Billy Running Festival is back after a short hiatus, promising an exhilarating event for all ages and skill levels. Spanning two action-packed days on the 9th and 10th of September, the festival offers four different courses, catering to seasoned runners and families alike.

Day one kicks off with the 1.2km Kids Dash and a 5km Family Fun Run/Walk on September 9 at Emerald Lake Park. The iconic Puffing Billy steam locomotive sets the stage, providing a lively atmosphere for participants.

On September 10, the main event unfolds, as up to 3,000 runners face off against two massive steam locomotives in the heart-pounding 13.5km 'Classic' Run. For those seeking an even greater challenge, the all-new 21.1km road and trail Half Marathon tests endurance amidst the scenic hills of the Eastern Dandenong Ranges.

Spectators can also join the excitement and board the iconic Puffing Billy, potentially surpassing the racing runners. The Festival's Finish Zone is hosted at the state-of-the-art Lakeside Visitor Centre in Emerald Lake Park, offering food, beverages, retail

options, and the Emerald Lake Park's picturesque surroundings.



The event is supported by Puffing Billy Railway's dedicated volunteers, with proceeds going towards vital heritage railway projects. Whether you're a seasoned participant or a first-time racer, there's a course suited for everyone. Secure your spot and avoid disappointment by registering early at <https://puffingbillyrunningfestival.com.au/>.

Sheena Dang - Communications Manager

Emerald RSL Music Nights



Appearing **Emerald RSL**
3 Memorial Ave, Emerald VIC 3782

Emerald CFA

Preventable House Fires

Did you know that on average, there are 3,000 house fires each year and in 2021 CFA responded to 130 chimney fires.

In the last 10 years 843 house fires were from homes located in both Yarra Ranges and Cardinia Shire, where the majority of fires were in the kitchen at dinner time. This was followed by 126 incidents located in sleeping areas and chimney fires and over 500 of the fires were caused from equipment including heating, cooking and electrical appliances.

During the winter months, higher risks exist in bedrooms and lounge areas from improper use of electrical appliances and home heating including the use of power boards and extension leads.

Most house fires could be prevented by taking simple precautions, including:

- Have chimneys professionally cleaned and gas heaters serviced every 2 years
- Check chimneys, flues and fire boxes for cracks, rust and debris
- Never dry clothes or have flammable items such as curtains close to a heater or open fire
- Check electrical blankets for kinks in the wiring
- Clean the lint filter in your dryer (do this after each use)
- Ensure you have working smoke alarms

Remember, only working smoking alarms save lives.

Emerald Ladies Probus Club

Nine members of Emerald Ladies Probus Club rugged up and braved a very cool morning at the Dandenong Market last month to participate in the Market's Street Food Tour. The tour is billed as an "exclusive, behind-the-scenes insight into the tantalising aromas and exotic flavours on offer from select market traders" and was enjoyed by all!

This is just one of many regular outings and activities that we offer each month. Our club is open to all retired, or semi-retired ladies, for fun and friendship in a social atmosphere. Our meetings are held at the Emerald RSL on the third Monday of each month (except December) at 10am.



Our next meeting is Monday 17 July when our guest speaker is a representative from Cardinia Council who will talk about Waste Management. We welcome you to come along and meet our members, enjoy some morning tea, and listen to our guest speaker.

Probus Enquiries: Linda McIvor
 Email: ladiespce123@gmail.com

Emerald U3A- Volunteering

**Is Volunteering like working with no Income Tax obligation?
 No, it's much more fun than that.**

In my working life I was obligated to do stuff 5 days per week, so I don't want any more obligations. But I don't want to be lonely or have nothing to do, or to feel that all my lifetime skills and knowledge are now worthless. I may be too old to want a paid job but I'm not too old to give back to people in my community who I may not know.

Being a volunteer allows me to do what I can when I want with people who smile simply because they know that they are helping.

Spending time with others gives me a sense of purpose and a conversation piece that I share with my golfing friends. They're interested in what goes on in their community and I can now share some of my own interesting stories.

I'm prepared to give a few hours a week if it helps others to get by and anyway, it's now become an enjoyable interlude and surprisingly, also given me an interest in the way our organisations work.

If you want to re-engage without feeling committed, and have fun, contact U3A or another one of your local volunteer organisations. You'll be loved like a long-lost relation!

Roy Bowyer
U3A Committee Member & Hub Host

Emerald Tennis Club



Season 1/2023 recently concluded, ETC had a very successful season with six teams competing, five finishing in the top four and getting involved in finals.

A Tuesday and Thursday night team reached the Grand Final, both being eventual Runners-Up. The younger brigade (15-19 years), including Daniel Kapahnke, Ashwin Beatson, Oscar Mattille, Aiden Todd and Miah Beardshaw all involved in these two teams. They do a wonderful job representing our club, with Miah and Aiden also playing in the Eastern Region Tennis Open section on a Sunday.



Miah Beardshaw and Daniel Kapahnke

Two midweek ladies teams were also successful in making it to the first week of the finals.

Season 2 night tennis commences later this month with ETC entering six teams.

ETC eagerly awaits the delivery of our protracted lighting project. The club is appreciative of club stalwart Neil Thornton for undertaking the task of finding alternative courts for our night teams due to limited courts with lights at Emerald. Almost two years have now passed without lights, impacting the club financially and forcing members to play away from their home.

Hopefully this will be the last season without lights and we continue to urge the Council and our Ward Councillor for a timely response to our enquiries and needs.

Wimbledon commences this week and we welcome everyone who may be inspired to join us at ETC.

Membership packages available at:
<https://play.tennis.com.au/emeraldTennisClub>

July Burn-Off Ban

Cardinia Shire residents are reminded that no burning off is allowed across the Shire during the month of July. This applies to all zones across the Shire. Permits can be applied for.

"Over The Hills Singers"



Message to All Men

We need more "musical males" to enrich the choir.....

- **Tenors**
- **Baritones**
- **Basses**

We are based at the Hills Hub and we meet every Wednesday at 4pm - 5.30pm (6pm in summer).

Come join us as a U3A member (\$40pa)

- contact 0490 805 743

Note: we would still love to see more women retirees too.

Anne Taylor - OTHS

Emerald Secondary College

Job Vacancy

The College is seeking to employ a retired/semi-retired handy person for 2-3 days per week on a casual basis (time fraction open to negotiation).

No formal qualities required, but we expect a bit of innovation and common sense around a workshop and working in a school environment.

The College will support the successful applicant in obtaining a WWC appraisal.

James Barut - Principal

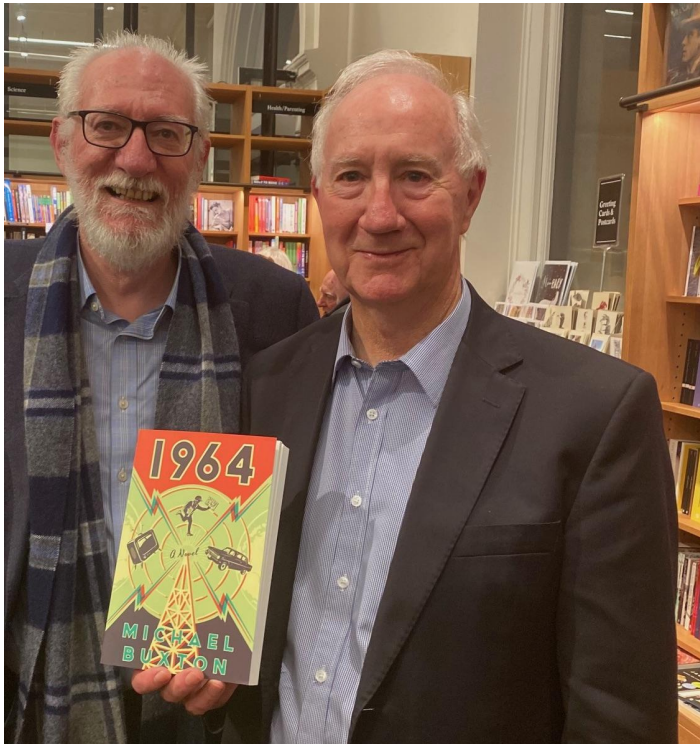
Fernlea - Shop of Opportunities



Sharon Wilcox - Manager, Fernlea Shop of Opportunities

opshop@fernlea.com.au

Local Identity Launches First Novel



Michael Buxton with EVA member, Trevor Budge

Well-known Macclesfield resident, former Sherbrook Shire Councillor and Professor Emeritus at RMIT University, Michael Buxton, has turned his hand to fiction. Wednesday 5th July saw over 100 colleagues and friends gather

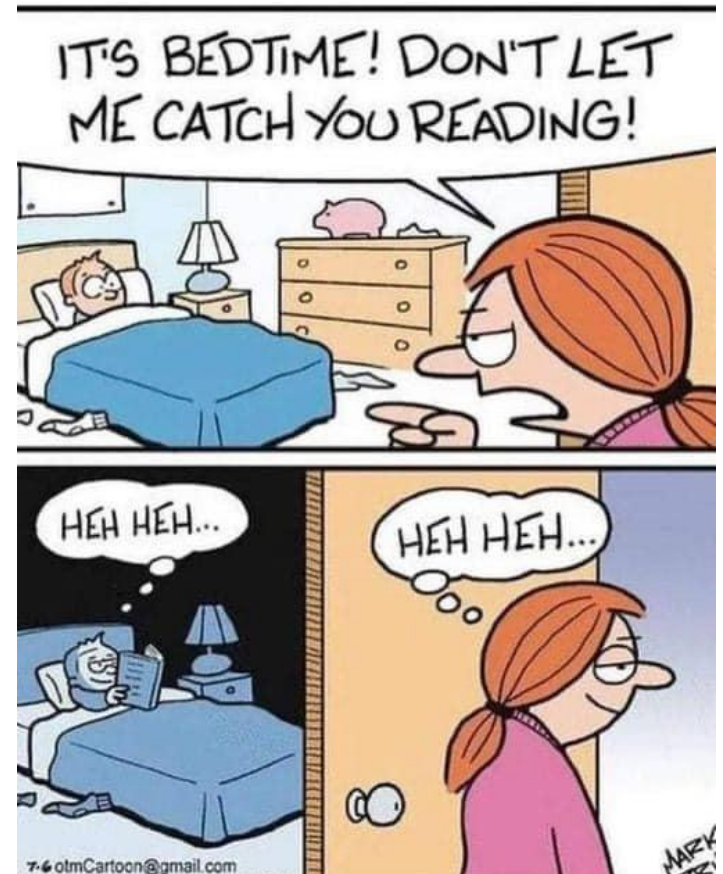
at Readings bookstore in the State Library for the launching of Michael's novel titled simply 1964.

His novel is the story of a lost city swept away by development interests and the rapid rejection of social norms and institutions. This was the year everything also changed in the life of a young journalist leaving the security of school to discover an unfamiliar workplace and an escalating series of confronting experiences.

Michael shared that the writing of the book was a labour of love over 40 years, he confessed, "I wrote the first 70 pages when he was 38, and then I returned twice to the book over the next four decades finally finishing it in 2022". Getting someone to actually read it was a battle, but the first publisher to read it snapped it up, and so Hardie Grant took up the challenge to print it and get it on the shelves.

1964 invites readers to look back from an unforeseen future to a lost and largely forgotten world. It is a story of our inability to anticipate the future, of how we have arrived at where we are today, and of what we lost on the way. You can buy it at Readings stores or order online through booktopia.com

More Smiles





Meet the owners of the new Flavour Bomb, Shantelle, Jason, sons Isaiah and Valentino who work at the Restaurant and daughter.

Jason's East Timorese background and love for their traditional dishes stems from his very close family & learning from his Grandma's cooking. Jason and his brothers were brought to Australia and raised by his grandma when he was two years old.

When Covid hit and the loss of his Grandma last year gave Jason the time to follow his passion and love of cooking. The family's original intention was to open a food truck until they came across Your Local Pantry which was up for sale in Emerald earlier this year.

Shantelle & Jason bought the business at the end of March, renovated the shop themselves and opened on the 20th May. The family live locally in Cockatoo, and with not many Asian options available in the area wanted to open a restaurant that had delicious food, a warm ambience and provide exceptional service.

Sometimes things are meant to be and Flavour Bomb is one of those things. The restaurant has already gained a strong customer base & following with good vibes, good food and a warm atmosphere.
4/329 Belgrave-Gembrook Rd, Emerald. 5968 3461

For more Meet the Trader profiles visit https://easterndandenongranges.com.au/blogs/meet_the_trader/

July Events

- Star of Emerald Christmas in July 21st & 22nd
- The Truth - Gemco Community Theatre 7th to 22nd
- Hairy Dog Cafe Bottomless Brunch 9th July
- EDRA members Christmas in July 14th
- The Children - Gemco Community Theatre 30th

Visit <https://easterndandenongranges.com.au/events/>



Nov
24
to
Nov
26

The PAVE Festival is hit to return bigger and better in November this year under the banner PAVED, Performing And Visual arts in the Eastern Dandenongs.

The PAVE Committee and the Eastern Dandenong Ranges Association will extend the festival across key townships in the Eastern Dandenong Ranges over three days from November 24 to November 26, chosen for businesses to showcase their venues and services as a lead-up to the Christmas period.

Musical & artistic performances are planned to feature across more than 20 venues over the three days, include a twilight Christmas traders & street fiesta on Fri Nov 24, and street performers, interactive play spaces & face painters in townships on Sat Nov 25.

A bus shuttle is also planned to visit local wineries for meet-the-maker wine experiences.

Other key events include art shows & literary events, Emerald Rotary Kids Fun Run against Puffing Billy and the Gembrook Market.

EDRA members will be assisted to cover performers' fees, marketing & promotion across multiple websites & social platforms. The events will be ticketed or linked through the PAVE website and featured on easterndandenongranges.com.au & Visit Victoria in October. To find out more about this exciting festival event and to take advantage of becoming an EDRA member email ask@edra.org.au or phone 0419 584 498

July Specials

- Star of Emerald Christmas in July 50% OFF
- Emerald Stockfeed 20% OFF Bird accessories
- Flavour Bomb Complimentary Jasmine Tea
- Emerald Mitre 10 Chance to win CAT Workwear
- BAM BAM's weekly specials

Visit <https://easterndandenongranges.com.au/special-offers/>

Macclesfield Pony Club



The Macclesfield Pony and Adult Riding Club burnt down on Saturday morning 17th June. A devastating shock to the local community.

Yarra Ranges Council issued a statement:

“The building, which is about 50 years old, was destroyed by fire on 17 June. The fire is being treated as suspicious by Victoria Police and is currently being investigated,” the statement read.

“Council assets are insured for events like a fire, and we are currently liaising with our insurers with regards to the loss of the property.

“While the building has been destroyed, the club is still able to operate on the land once the hazardous material has been removed and the toilets that were due for demolition are now being left in place.

A Message from Peter Cook at DRREA

A new source of fund raising for community groups

In November the state government will launch its long awaited Container Deposit Scheme or CDS. This will offer an important new source of fund raising for community groups.

For more details go to:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/container-deposit-scheme>

The Vic government CDS website lists charities, environment groups, sport groups and educational organisations as examples of community groups that could benefit from CDS.

It goes on to list 3 ways local groups could potentially benefit.

The first way is that when community members take cans and bottles to a collection point to redeem their deposits they could nominate their preferred Registered group for that money to go to.

Collection Points could come in a number of forms. They could be a Reverse Cycle Vending Machine (RCVM) outside a Supermarket or a Collection Depot.

With the RCVM's you feed your cans and bottles into the machine then swipe your card and the ten cent deposit

from each of the cans and bottles is credited either to you or your nominated community group. Font size? Interstate experience shows that a significant number of people donating small amounts regularly can add up to become an important income stream.

Secondly, community groups could organise drink container collection drives. The unredeemed ten cent deposits from these cans and bottles collected would then be redeemed by the group at a local Collection Centre or Collection Point.

If members or supporters of these groups regularly put their cans and bottles aside for collection by the group the unredeemed 10 cent deposits could add up over time.

The third option could be for a Community group to run a Refund Collection Point as a business This would be a place where Emerald residents could redeem their 10 cent deposits when they have more than a few cans and bottles. It would probably also be a place where cans and bottles donated in a 'Collection drive' could be redeemed.

I hope that Emerald groups are early adopters of CDS and that they take full advantage of this fundraising opportunity.

The following hills and Emerald residents fought long and hard to have this important litter and recycling reform introduced by the state government. Graeme Legge, Graeme Eadie, Roger Willsher, Sheila Hampson, Bill Pell, Karl Williams, Darren Wallace and M Cook

Please note: Not all bottles have a 10 cent deposit. Wine bottles and milk containers are not eligible and should go in your household recycling bin.

Peter Cook - DRREA

Cardinia Shire Council

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FEEDBACK

Dick Bartley - dickbartley08@gmail.com

Peter Maloney - evanews3782@gmail.com

(Editor)

Holley Adams - salve5858@gmail.com

**[READ THIS NEWSLETTER ON OUR WEBSITE
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EMERALD GALLERY



The Light Night Train



Puffing Billy - way back early 1900's



Anzac Place



Emerald from above



Emerald Lake Park



Poppies abound for Anzac Day

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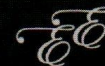
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